

Secret.

In reply, state NUMBER and DATE

dated 12.8.43.

Dear Sender,

S.I.S. S.O.E. Liaison, HollandWill you please refer to our dated 30.7.43.

In 's absence I should like to give you a summary of the information we have on record for the balance of the names of Dutch S.O.E. agents which appear on the long list you recently sent us for checking.

In most cases I have been unable to establish exact identity against our traces, but I am giving you all the information we have which may possibly have reference to, or some connection with, the agents themselves.

- 1) ROELEVELD. ✓ We have a trace of one S. ROELEVELD, a seaman, who was in Liverpool prison early in 1941. He is reported to have had trouble with the Captain of the "Blommersdijk".
- 2) G. RUTGERS. ✓ Our trace refers to one G. RUTGERS, reported by a Dutch refugee who arrived in this country in November 1941 as being a member of the N.S.B. His address was given as being near Korreweg, Groningen. His occupation is that of a wine merchant and he was described as follows:-
 Aged 35; small face; blue eyes;
 mouse coloured hair; height 5'; married.
- 3) Jan HOUTMAN. ✓ Our trace refers to one HOUTMAN, butcher, living at Koninginnenvweg, Haarlem. This man was reported to be a member of the N.S.B., the source of this information being a Dutch refugee who arrived in this country in August 1942.
- 4) George Lodewijk REINDERS. ✓ One REINDERS appears in a list of N.S.B. members dated October 1940. REINDERS was reported as being a retired member of the Gendarmerie, possibly at Ymuiden.
- 5) Marinus van der FLAS. ✓ A Dutch refugee source who arrived in this country in June 1941 reported one van der FLAS, a painter, as being pro-Nazi and a member of the N.S.B. His address was given as being at Aalten.

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- 6) Pieter van PUTTEN. A report on one van PUTTEN, dated February 1942, stated that he was, and possibly still is, an intimate friend of the Dutch Nazi chief MUSSERT. He has been in the film trade for some years and it is definite that he had been an ardent Nazi in Germany where he was in all probability working for the Dutch Nazis. He is a well educated man, speaks excellent English and his parents are well-to-do. In appearance he is fair and the most striking thing about his face is his huge mouth.

At the time of the report it was suggested that van PUTTEN was working for the Germans in Holland, getting the confidence of his compatriots, who may be working against the Nazis, and giving them away.

- 7) Joseph BAKKERS. For a possible trace of this man, perhaps I can do no better than to send you a copy of the report on one Joseph Antonie BAKKER received from M.I.5.

- 8) Gerard van OS. This man is the subject of a telegram received from our representative in Geneva in February 1942. At that time van OS, together with two other Dutchmen, was reported to be at Toulouse and endeavouring to find a way of reaching Barcelona.

In reply to this telegram from our representative, who suggested that these Dutchmen should be put into touch with members of our organisation who would take them into Spain, we stated that van OS had come to our notice in an unfavourable manner.

Unfortunately, I have been unable to trace the reasons for our suspicion against van OS, and reading through his M.I.5. interrogation report at the Patriotic Schools, I see that our suspicions appear to have been without much foundation as the impression he created at the Schools was favourable.

- 9) Antonius Johannes WEGNER. This man is the subject of a long report written by Rudolphus van der LAAN who was, incidentally, also vetted by us as an S.O.E. agent in May 1942. Perhaps I should mention that our comments for the latter were unfavourable as he had made a bad impression at the Patriotic Schools, and this should, therefore, be taken into consideration when reading the statement he made concerning WEGNER, which I am attaching herewith in the form of a separate report.

Yours sincerely,

Cmdr. Senter,

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London, 27th October 1941.

Joseph Antonie BAKKER

The following information is given to you for any action you may wish to take.

"Born Amsterdam 26.1.16., single, son of Captain BAKKER, Jacob (now on board s.s. "LUNA" in the Netherlands West Indies) and Mrs. BAKKER-VOLLMARE (of Belgian parents, ardent member of the "National Socialistische Beweging in Nederland") Address in the Netherlands, (with his parents) 5, Rijkstraatweg, Haarlem. Netherlands passport No. 727745 issued at London 28.5.40. Registration Book No. 1018807 issued Commercial Street 4.9.40., Q. number 66368 Metropolitan Identity Card No. ASA.524689. Royal Netherlands Navy, Naval rating No. 10548.

We have been informed by the Captain of the s.s. BODEGRAVEN, Gerard F. JACHTENBERG, that he was not satisfied with his 4th officer. The Captain knew all about his activities as a member of the National Socialist Movement in the Netherlands and they did not trust him with the secret papers, which they could not prevent him from seeing whilst performing his duties on the bridge. As an officer he was no good and it is, of course, known among the officers, that he failed to obtain a mate's ticket while attending the Nautical School at Amsterdam. An incident was reported on 3.10.41. during a little party in honour of the 2nd officer's birthday. BAKKER then had criticised the reliability of the B.B.C. News Bulletins, saying that they had to be taken with "a grain of salt". This aroused the indignation of other officers present and resulted in a sharp discussion.

When interviewed BAKKER stated that he joined the N.S.B. as early as 1933, immediately after the start of the Movement by A.A. MUSSERT. He was then 17 years of age and attending the H.B.S. (Communal High School) at Haarlem. He left school after the 3rd form, while the complete course consists of 5 forms. In 1934 he went to the Nautical School at Amsterdam but failed to obtain any results and left the school in 1935. Through the influence of his father he started sailing as an apprentice officer after some months. He admitted that as a passenger on his father's ship he went and visited Hamburg together with his mother and sister.

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He admits contact with TIESKENS and that he made TIESKENS a member on probation of the N.S.B. BAKKER admits he belonged to a Haarlem District group of the N.S.B. and attended meetings under leadership of the retired Army Major UNIE. Although his father came home on leave he attended accompanied by his mother and sister the N.S.B. Party Day at Lunteren, in 1937. He first began to deny that he wore Party Uniform, but later admitted that he wore an old Boy Scouts Shirt which served as such.

BAKKER states that he had no objections against the procedures of the Nazi Party in Germany and saw no harm in German leadership over Holland. He regarded MUSSERT and his followers as suitable people to reorganise the Netherlands. He expected the N.S.B. to instate a new order. During the seven years between 1933 and 1940 he always paid his membership fee and he was still a member of the Party when he arrived in the United Kingdom in May 1940 as a Naval rating escorting prisoners of war.

Under the Conscription Act he had to join the Royal Netherlands Navy and was trained as a rating 1937-38. He does not deny that he expressed national socialist feelings in the Naval Barracks at Amsterdam. He was called up in September 1939 and served again in Amsterdam, still being a member of the N.S.B. His feelings for the N.S.B. had become somewhat less after the failure of the party in the general election 1937 which gave him the feeling that the Party was not going to be approved by the general public. BAKKER states that his father expected that he, the son, was going to be interned in this country and that the whole time he was aware of the probability.

BAKKER told the captain of s.s. BODEGRAVEN that he did not feel like joining the R.N.N. but presumably he has changed his views since he was told of the possibility of getting a commission. He declared that he will do everything in his power to blot out his political past and that his sympathies are now on the other side.

We do not consider this man suitable for a commission in the Royal Netherlands Navy.

WEGNER AFFAIR

"As I stated before, I got to know WEGNER through RUYSS. Wegner's character is not what one would call "fine".

WEGNER was married, but sold his wife, so to speak, through telling her exactly what was happening. He was a great dreamer.

During the last days of the war(sic) they were obliged to shut him up, because he had lost his reason. (This is according to his own statement).

In Geneva I described everything that had happened on our journey fully and exactly. As well as a day to day account of what had happened in G. This was compiled from pieces of paper and other material which I collected during the journey in order to confirm my statements in that book.

I had also not minored matters in putting down what I thought of our friends W. and R. While I was in Hospital, RUYSS got hold of this book and read it in front of a lot of people; also things which were detrimental to W. WEGNER is a man who believes himself to be faultless and would not listen; he took the book on which I had worked for weeks and tore it to shreds, either getting rid of the pieces himself or through somebody else. WEGNER threatened me with murder and sudden death, and wanted to come to the hospital to carry out his threat. FLATON, who witnessed this drama, said WEGNER was in a terrible state, "he was simply insane and I prevented him from doing it", said FLATON. WEGNER thereupon calmed down and said he would put off murdering me until I came out of the hospital. Then FLATON said "Yes, but I am still here".

WEGNER appropriated someone else's property illegally and then destroyed it.

He did not show himself when I first came out of the hospital. FLATON had informed me. Later on he came into my room and said "I have come to you in case you should think I was afraid. You once said that you were a good friend but a bad enemy, now I am going to say the same. Now you can accuse me and do what you like but I know what I am doing." Whereupon I merely said: "Who said that I was going to accuse anybody or going to do anything, time will show. Wegner went away then; and I immediately moved to another boarding house. Wegner also said, "At first I liked you, but recently I have hated you. You were right about many things but I contradicted them because I hated you".

This is another dirty trick of his against FLATON:-